As far as is possible I have tried to couple my life as an academic, writer and teacher of politics with community activism. This has meant choosing research projects or designing courses that work in the service of community values in the broadest sense: social and environmental justice, equality and inclusion, civic responsibility, democracy and internationalism.

These values continue to inform my thinking and writing today and I worry especially about problems of climate change and the planning of our cities. Now as never before they are subject to the destabilising forces of global economic competition – forces that undermine capacities to govern anything, local or global. It’s a hard world for that ancient institution called the state and we scorn it to our great peril. A crowded and complex world needs good governance – at all levels!

**Most of my work over the past three or so decades is recorded on this website and some of it reproduced. At the moment I am at work on a book discussing the future of suburban Perth and a small land development project in Maddington, one of Perth’s middle suburbs The project upper most in my mind at the moment is my bid for a City of Gosnells Council seat. So if it concerns you, take a look around the website.**

**Blurbs to go with reports**

***Transport for People with Disabilities:*** In the mid-1990s, I played a key role in national court action against state transport agencies for breaches of human rights law – and helped win significant victories for people with disabilities and their long troublesome access to public transport services. In Perth alone, this meant a $100 million dollar 20-year action plan… and a city more accessible than any other in the country. This all took a few years, a detailed report I prepared documenting problems and best practice solutions and more than a few hours of patient argument.

***Brain Drain:*** documents the the need for a tertiary campus to service Perth’s eastern suburbs. One headline statistic from that report says it all*: in 2005, Perth's western suburbs enjoyed the benefits of 1 university place per 20 persons. In the eastern suburbs, it was 1 place per 5000.* It took a while, but in 2015, the Premier of our state finally acknowledged the stark unfairness of this sorry fact and promised action to remedy it. We are all waiting… Now I worry more about what happens in our corporatised universities.